TIMES-VIRGINIAN
*In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt*
Appomattox, Virginia

VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION Member

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**Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ...... *Editors and Publishers***

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## EDITORIAL OPINION

### THANKS TO OUR FINE RURAL CORRESPONDENTS

The Times-Virginian owes a debt of gratitude to the fine rural correspondents who contribute so much to the success of any weekly newspaper. At this Christmas Season we wish to go on record as thanking them for their public service. And in so doing, we know we are joined by our host of readers.

There is no use in beating around the bush: the thing that sells weekly newspapers is the abundance of local personal and social news items from rural correspondents. And in presenting this material, the weekly newspaper is happily in a filed without competition. Therfore, there is no fear for the future of the weekly newspaper. The rural correspondents guarantee that future!

The Times-Virginian is proud of the length of service of so many of its correspondents. We have some who have been writing for this paper for over twenty years! And they have developed quite a following. They may not know it, but we get complaints if they miss a week! And we have subscribers in distant states who take the paper in order to get the personal news from their home community.

One of the top purposes of a weekly newspaper is to provide a medium of expression for rural America. Another purpose is to enable smaller town businesses to have acecss to a low-cost medium of advertising so that his trade might have comparable advantages of the city merchant.

So, Merry Christmas to our rural correspondents and to our advertisers. They make it possible for us to publish the newspaper and to have readers, to whom we can also say Merry Christmas!

### VIEWPOINT

(The Wall Street Journal)

Otto Kahn, financier, art patron and philanthropist, once said at a dinner in New York City:

"Communism, fascism and other kindred movements are bound to fail. Why? Because they're based on rate, not love."

"As I understand it," he continued, "a man once said to a Communist, 'The fundamental idea of communism is to divide up with your neighbor.'"

"Nothing of the kind," snarled the red. "The fundamental idea of communism is to make your neighbor divide up with you!"

Hope held for French approval of West German rearmament.

### TRIMMING THE TREE

(The Washington Post)

Whether one has a chic, table-size Christmas tree sprayed with pink snow, and glittering with ornaments inspired by atoms and flying saucers, or a towering fir festooned in tinsel and sparkling with colored lights and balls that have done service for a generation, the rite of trimming the tree retains its traditional thrill. This will be experienced this holiday season in at least 25 million homes, since predictions are that approximately this number of trees will be sold. Though the trend today is toward the 1- to 3-foot tree —the 5- to 6-foot tree comes second —the trimming procedure remains the same, with all the trimmers telling the Mr. Fixit of the cast just how everything ought to be done and no two agreeing. But at the end there is always the shared pride in surveying the wondrous creation that has brought light, color and magic into everyday surroundings.

The Christmas tree, whatever its style, will be warmly surrounded by memories of all past trees—perhaps some from whose candle-lighted branches popcorn and cranberries were strung, and for whose summits stars were made of tinfoil; perhaps others lighted by strings of colored electric bulbs, and having beneath them picket fences inclosing celluloid Santa Clauses and reindeer; perhaps still others in village churches or schoolhouses or newly established households. But the trimmed tree will also be encompassed with expectation—that of the great moment, when children will find beneath it those mysterious evidences that the spirit of giving is striding the earth. Past and future meet in their happiest moods at the newly trimmed Christmas tree, and for a while at least, the exultant trimmers are free of thoughts of the pine needles to be later picked out of the carpet.

### 'SECURE IN THEIR PERSONS'

(The Christian Science Monitor)

Today, Dec. 15, is the 163rd anniversary of the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the Constitution. Four years ago we warned editorially that "this Bill of Rights is under the greatest pressure in its history." And that "American citizens, as 'secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects' as are any on earth, will do well to pause and reflect on the long and bitter struggle with which that security has been won."

We are happy to report that during these intervening years the danger rose to a crisis, passed it we believe, and began to level off to that constant need for vigilance which is always the price of freedom. We hope and trust we are right.

For of the many gulfs that separate the free world from the slave none is more important than that which marks the protection of the individual against the potentially tyrannical power of the state. Whether the dictatorship be one of the extreme "right or the extreme "left," the state becomes the master. The American Constitution, on the other hand, draws the blueprint of a state the servant of the people, and the Bill of Rights fills in the detail.

It is, to be sure, a matter of the meaning of words and of morale. Many a ruthless Latin-American tyrant has operated ostensibly under a constitution not greatly unlike our own. Even the constitution of the Soviets reads well, though it guarantees nothing. What really matters is the degree in which the Constitution is understood, cherished, and upheld by the people.

Therefore, it comes not amiss that once a year we shall commemorate that day in 1791 when Virginia's ratification made the Bill of Rights an integral part of the fundamental law of the land.

### NAPS INSTEAD OF PILLS

(Winchester Star)

Chosen as the "Family Doctor of 1954," Dr. Karl B. Pace, of Greenville, N. C., shows his appreciation of the honor by giving much-needed advice to this generation which is suffering from nerve tension, dignified by such alarming phrases as psychosomatic and emotional troubles, affecting at least 60 per cent of the population.

His advice takes the form of a sort of free clinic for those who are finding the going a bit tough in an age of stress and strain.

Dr. Pace's formula for happy and healthful living is simple. Live today, let tomorrow take care of itself. Don't try to get rich. Try to like everyone you meet, spend more time at home, and take a nap in the middle of the day as a means of relaxation. The family doctor today, he says, must be counsellor rather than a physician and give advice instead of pills.

But the average doctor will no doubt maintain that he wouldn't get very far, or be overly popular, by prescribing naps instead of medicine As a people Americans constantly seek something to take the place of common sense. The average citizen is too busily involved in buying to keep up with the procession to take time for midday naps.

People would be better off if they followed the advice of the doctor who has been so deservedly honored. But they will not because it is free, and there are no prescriptions to be filled.

### EYEING THE LAKES

(Winchester Star)

When Fred Hall is inaugured as governor of Kansas next month at the age of 38, he will be the youngest governor the state has had since 1873, and he has original ideas, too. He has been toying with solutions to the drougth which has afflicted his state for several years, a condition which has been costly to its flat acres many times in the past.

Mr. Hall would build a giant pipe line from Lake Michigan to Kansas to overcome the deficiency in rainfall. What effect this would have on the water level of the lake, or what the reaction of cities along the lake would be to this diversion of its contents, he did not venture to guess. But other cities in the Midwest might be expected to tap on to the line, too.

In Chicago to attend sessions of the Council on State Governments, Mr. Hall said showers and light rains are no longer sufficient to supply water needed by Kansas cities and growing industries, to say nothing of the state's agricultural needs, and its rivers are inadequate sources of water supply.

### MAN'S DAYS ARE SHORT

(Winchester Star)

Man looks down on the animals with some reason. He can fly faster than any bird, tunnel deeper than any mole. Master of fire and wielder of armies, able to speak and act cooperatively, he refuses to take the world as it comes. If what he wants doesn't exist, he creates it.

A dog is physically mature at two and lives, barring accidents, to be 12. A cat is full grown at one and and a half and lives to be 10. A horse stops growing at four and dies, on the average at 25.

All these lesser creatures have a life expectancy of at least six times their period of maturation. Man, the master of the universe, should be able to do better than the animals.

He does hardly half as well. He reaches full growth at 25 or thereabouts, so he ought to be good for 150 years. But if he survives past 75 he is considered a hardy specimen.

People have been heard to say that this is just as well. Life being what it is, man merely shows his intelligence by shuffling off the mortal coil early. But the human personality matures in the late thirties. the human intelligence in the late forties.

As more than half the population is younger, man lives in a society preponderantly immature, both emotionally and intelltctually. Lengthening the life span would provide more opportunity to use "the hidden treasures of the later years."

Man has the knowledge now to lengthen his life span to a century. That is a challenge to his fellow doctors, and still more a challenge to those who plan human society. Shall man, who believes in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, let the lesser animals outdo him in all three?

### BRITAIN'S ROAD BACK

(Christian Science Monitor)

Among signs of increasing resilience in the British economy Americans will welcome the more than fourfold increase in the number of automobiles Britons will be permitted to import from the United States next year. The number is not large—650—and the value is $1,400,000. But here is one more signpost on the long road Britain has been traveling from wartime restrictions on trade to more for everybody.

The dismantling of controls on trade and finance, for example, started a long time ago. There was a time when Americans could invest their money in British industry only if willing to leave it there indefinitely or take it back in pounds instead of dollars. That was changed nearly five years ago when capital invested after January 1, 1950, in projects approved by the British Government was made subject to withdrawal again in dollars.

Since then a free gold market has opened in London and some other forms of restriction on currency movements have been lifted. Of direct concern to Americans is the fact that more than half of Britain's dollar imports have now been freed from control-by-quota.

Americans welcome these moves becacse they not only mean bigger markets for American goods but mark the growing strength of a neeed ally.

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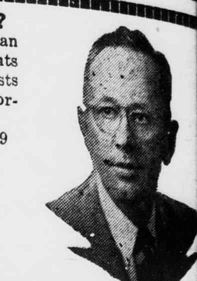

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### ...newall

...wall, Dec. 20.- I want to ...r good Editor and his bet... and all the readers of the ...Virginian a very Merry ...as and a Happy New Year.

... Louise Burnette, from Har... College, is home to spend ...days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Burnette.

Little Lee Drinkard, of Staunton School, will arrive on Thursday December 23, to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. George Jennings and family, of Kingston, N. C. have arrived to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Parke Jennings and also attend the wedding of his sister, Frances Jennings to Mr. Monroe Dysse on Wednesday of this week at the Hebron Baptist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beard and son, Lawrence visited their parents on Sunday.

Mrs. Hugh Tanner and baby son have returned home from the Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Mrs. R. H. Thornhill is spending a while in Waynesboro with her daughter and baby granddaughter, Mrs. Floyd Weidman and baby, Nancy Lynn.

Miss Arlene Drinkard, of Lynchburg spent last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Drinkard.

## Colored Dots

Pre - Christmas services were held at the Galilee Baptist Church last Sunday morning. The church choir rendered special Christmas music. The pastor delivered a special pre-Christmas message. All who were present enjoyed the message. A few visitors attended the service. The offering was very good. The pastor was presented a special Christmas offering by members of the church. The presentation was made on behalf of the church by Miss H. B. Stephens. The pastor accepted the gift with words of thanks and praise for all who shared in the special offering.

The evening service at Galilee was witnessed by a small crowd. The service was rendered by the Roseland Singers, of Lynchburg. The program included gospel songs which were enjoyed by all. The evening offering was very good. The program was given for the benefit of the local Sunday School.

Funeral services for the late Mrs. Mary Lou Haskin were hld at the First Baptist Church last Saturday evening at 2:00 o'clock. The Rev. N. R. Jordan, pastor of the deceased, delivered the very timely eulogy. The deceased was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church for a number of years. She had served the church in a number of capacities. She was its oldest member. She had served as janitor, Sunday School teacher, member of the choir, clerk and member of the Ladies Aid. Resolutions from the church, Ladies Aid, and friends were read by Rev. R. Q. Lawing, who assisted in the service. The senior choir of the church rendered special music. Mrs. Antionette Fleshman served at the piano. The floral designs were in large numbers. Burial was held in the community cemetery. The deceased made her home here in the home of her neice, Mrs. J. A. Hamlet. In addition to Mrs. Hamlet she left several neices and one nephew, Mr. Davis, of West Virginia.

The Union Christmas tree will be held at the First Baptist Church this year on Christmas Eve at 8:00 P. M. Children of both schools will receive gifts and Christmas bags. The public is invited to attend.

The public is invited to worship at the First Baptist Church this Sunday morning. The pastor will deliver the annual Christmas message.

Members and friends are invited to worship at the Promise Land Baptist Church this Sunday morning at the regular 11:30 A. M. hour. The pastor will deliver his annual Christmas message.

Thefollowing young people have returned home for the holidays Misses Sarah Watkins, Jacqueline Lawing and Deaster Johnson, of Virginia State College; Lillie Mae Lewis and Donald Doss, of St. Paul. A few more will be in this week.

Cpl. Roger McKinley Tanner, of the U. S. Army has arrived home for a 30-day stay from Korea. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tanner, of Spout Spring.

Cpl. Clarence Wheeler has received his honorable discharge from the Army and is living here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Wheeler.

George Stephens, of Baltimore, is spending his vacation here as the guest of his mother, Mrs. Lucy Stephens.

Fifty-two weeks of home town news! Give a subscription to The Times-Virginian. Only $2.00.

### "ONE FOR THE ROAD"

Calling on friends and relatives a few days before Christmas to deliver gifts in person has been a happy holiday custom in the United States for years.

Unfortunately, this cheerful tradition has been taking on a somewhat somber hue in recent years. In many homes, gift bearers are asked to partake of a cup or two of Christmas cheer. So far so good. The dark side of this bright custom turns up after the donor leaves the second or third house on his list.

Overflowing with Yuletime spirits he climbs behind the wheel of his car and immediately becomes a traffic hazard. To offset this risk, safety authorities are advising hostesses to offer coffee as the "one for the road" beverage for Yuletime callers.

### Feathered Pillows

Feather pillows should be aired on a cloudy, windy day rather than in the sun because sun rays draw the natural oil out of the feathers and destroy their resiliency. And a small amount of starch in the ticking of a pillow will keep the feathers from poking through.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
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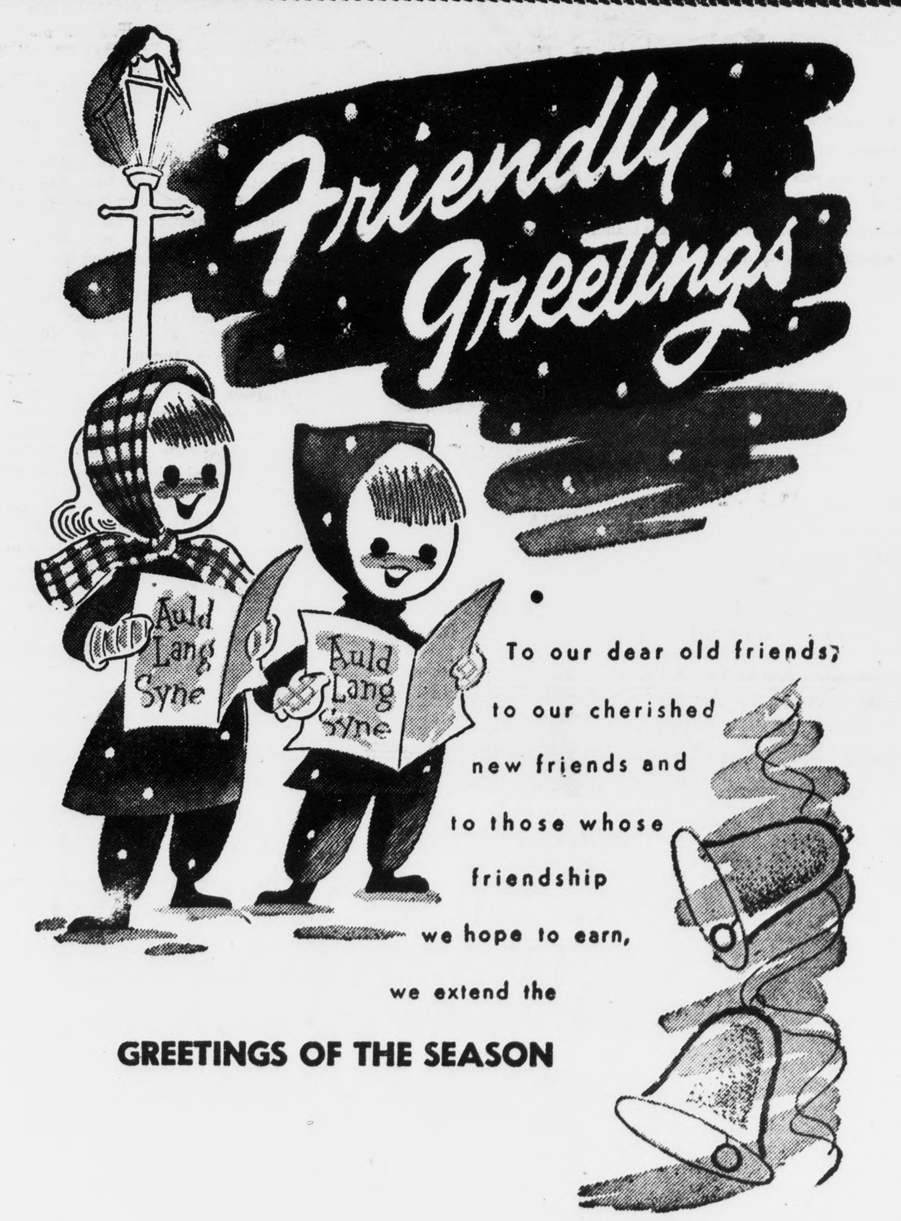


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